

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 USUN N 02234 212301Z

12

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /145 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4513

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

S E C R E T USUN 2234

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT PO PU

SUBJ: GOP VIEWS ON PAIGC NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A) LISBON 2584, B) LISBON 2595

1. FROM PRESPECTIVE OF UN, AND WITH SUCCESSFUL PRECEDENTS (CAMEROON, TOGO, WESTERN SAMOA) IN MIND, WE WOULD SEE NO PROBLEM WITH UN SUPERVISING ELECTIONS IN GUINEA (B), WERE BOTH SIDES TO AGREE TO THAT AEGIS. THERE WOULD BE SOME IRONY, OF COURSE, IN HAVING UN SUPERVISE AN ELECTION WITH PORTUGUESE HOPE TO HELP RIG IN FAVOR OF PAIGC. (WE IMAGINE, HOWEVER, THAT LISBON SIMPLY COULD HAVE POTENTIAL ANTI-PAIGC VOTERS STAY AWAY FROM THE POLLS ON ELECTION DAY.)

2. A UN PEACEKEEPING ROLE, HOWEVER, IS QUITE ANOTHER MATTER. IN OUR JUDGEMENT SC WOULD NEVER APPROVE PORTUGUESE SCHEME THIS SORT, UNELSS PAIGC AGREED. EVEN IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT THAT THE PAIGC WERE TO ACCEPT SUCH A FORMULA, WHAT PORTUGUESE ARE TALKING ABOUT WOULD BE ANOTHER CONGO-TYPE OPERATION, THAT COULD EASILY GET OUT OF HAND. AMONG THE PROBLEMS WHICH COME TO MIND WOULD BE THE VERY COMPOSITION OF THE FORCE, EFFORTS BY SEKOU TOURE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OCCASION TO MENACE HIS NEIGHBORS, AND A PANOPLY OF OTHER POLITICAL AND LOGISTICAL FACTORS.

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SECRET

PAGE 02 USUN N 02234 212301Z

3. ACCORDINGLY, WE BELIEVE THAT PORTUGUESE THINKING CONCERNING

A UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN GUINEA (B) SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED.
PROBLEM OF COPING WITH INDIGENOUS TROOPS WHO FOUGHT FOR METROPOLE
HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY RESOLVED ELSEWHERE IN NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN
PARTIES, AND WE BELIEVE THAT A WORKABLE FORMULA COULD BE DEvised
WITHOUT A UN PEACEKEEPING PRESENCE. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT
IF US DISPOSED TO FOLLOW UP CONVERSATION REPORTED REFTel A,
PORTUGUESE BE ENCOURAGED TO EXPLORE SERIOUSLY ALTERNATIVE FORMULAS
SINCE, IN OUR VIEW, A UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATION MIGHT
WELL CREATE MORE PROBLEMS THAN IT WOULD SOLVE.
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